



Special Court for Sierra Leone
Press and Public Affairs Office

PRESS RELEASE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, 23 October 2004

A Statement by Registrar Robin Vincent

Bob Parnell, Chief of Security for the Special Court for Sierra Leone passed away in Choitram Hospital in Freetown at 16.20 on October 22.



I have expressed condolences on behalf of all staff, the Judges and the Management Committee to Bob's wife of 38 years, Rosemary, and their two children Robert Jnr and Kelly.

Bob Parnell had a long and distinguished career. He served in the United States Marine Corps for 24 years during which time he rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He served in the United States, Asia, Africa and Europe.

Upon leaving the Marine Corps in 1995 he began work with the United States Department of State.

He joined UNICEF in 1999 and was on loan to the Special Court from that organization when he joined us in September 2002.

At the Special Court he was responsible for establishing and maintaining all security systems.

He had a long association and strong dedication to Sierra Leone and its people, which is also shared by Rosemary who is a senior logistics officer with the UN World Food Program.

Bob Parnell was born on August the 8th, 1946 in North Carolina. He and Rosemary had just celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary.

Staff at the Special Court described Bob Parnell as a strong, faithful, protective and committed colleague who was incredibly dedicated to his wife. His sudden departure has created great sadness amongst all those who knew him.

Bob's body will be repatriated to the United States for burial.

#END

The Special Court is an independent tribunal established jointly by the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone. It is mandated to bring to justice those who bear the greatest responsibility for atrocities committed in Sierra Leone after 30 November 1996. To date, the Prosecutor has indicted eleven persons on various charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. Nine indictees are currently in the custody of the Court.

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